

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the third paragraph of page 19 with the following amended paragraph:

Into a 2 liter apparatus with a stirrer of 1960 ml of water was added and warmed up to 40° g chitosan (HYDAGEN® CMPF, Henkel KGaA, Düsseldorf/FRG) was added. The pH value of the mixture was adjusted to 5.5 by addition of hydrochloric acid. Thereafter 2 g (5% by weight based on dry substance) glycine and 0.5 g betaglukan (~~HIGCAREEN®~~ HIGHCAREEN® GS) was added and the mixture was homogenised with an Ultraturrax. Thereafter 0.87 g (2 % by weight based on dry substance) hexamethylene diisocyanate was carefully stirred in. After the cross-linking the suspension was frozen into a block and subsequently lyophilized. By splitting of the blocks after water removal to the desired thickness, water soluble fleeces were obtained, which by moistening behaved like sponges.

Please replace the fourth paragraph of page 19 with the following amended paragraph:

Into a 2 liter apparatus with a stirrer 1960 ml of water was added and warmed up to 40°C, and 40 g chitosan (HYDAGEN® CMPF, Henkel KGaA, Düsseldorf/FRG) was added. The pH value of the mixture was adjusted to 5.5 by addition of hydrochloric acid. Thereafter 2 g (5 % by weight based on dry substance) glycine, 1 g betaglukan (~~HIGCAREEN®~~ HIGHCAREEN® GS) and 2 g (5% by weight based on dry

substance) cellulose fibers were added and the mixture was homogenized with an Ultraturrax. Thereafter 0.8 g (2% by weight based on dry substance) hexamethylene diisocyanate was carefully stirred in. After the cross-linking the suspension was frozen into a block and subsequently lyophilized. By splitting of the blocks after water removal to the desired thickness, water soluble fleeces were obtained, which by moistening behaved like sponges.